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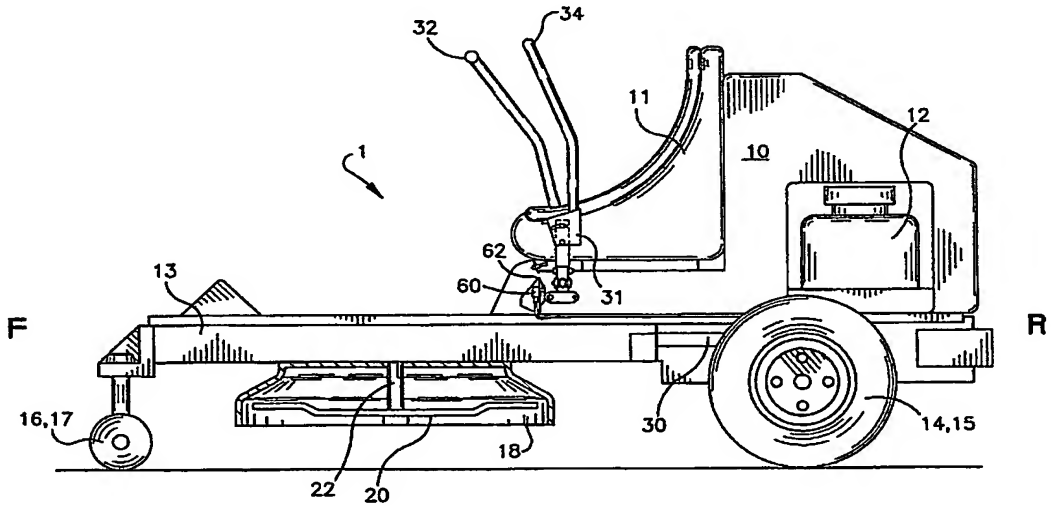
(54) Title: MECHANISM FOR DISCONTINUING POWER TO AN IMPLEMENT DRIVE DURING MACHINE REVERSE TRAVEL (NO POWER IN REVERSE) WITH AUTOMATIC REENGAGEMENT



(57) Abstract: An apparatus, systems and methods for automatically disengaging and re-engaging a cutting implement on a mowing machine by disconnecting and connecting, respectively, electrical power to an implement drive means. Power to the implement drive means is disconnected or connected according to gear positions of transmission control levers provided on the mowing machine. At designated gear positions, cut-out switches associated with the implement drive means are effective to interrupt power to the implement drive means. Repositioning the control levers to non-designated gear positions restores power to the implement drive means. The automatic disengagement/re-engagement of the cutting implement based on the gear position of transmission control levers may be used for two lever zero-turn-ride-on mowing machines or more traditional single lever ride-on mowing machines.

WO 2004/057632 A2